Resolution on the Voluntary System of Accountability
and Consultation with the Faculty

Presented and passed at the March 31st meeting the College Senate

Whereas, "The faculty of each college shall have the obligation to participate significantly in the initiation, development and implementation of the educational program." (Policies of the Board of Trustees, Article X, §4); and

Whereas, the purpose and responsibility of the faculty of the State University College at Oneonta "shall be to carry out the mandate of Article X, Sections 4 and 5 of the Policies of the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York through significant participation in the initiation, development, and implementation of the educational program of the College, and to assume such other responsibilities as the Board of Trustees may direct." (Organization and Bylaws of the State University College at Oneonta Faculty, Article II, §1); and

Whereas the Faculty of the College were not duly consulted about the pilot involvement in the Voluntary System of Accountability, hereafter referred to as the VSA, as required by Article VIII, Section 1 of the Organization and Bylaws of the State University College at Oneonta Faculty, which reads "Elected Faculty governance shall be the administration's first avenue of consultation on matters related to the initiation, development, and implementation of the educational mission of the college"; and

Whereas the College Senate has indicated through a number of different resolutions that it opposes the collection and public distribution of standardized measures assessing student learning outcomes that would allow for invidious and inappropriate comparisons among SUNY units; and

Whereas, further implementation of the VSA has continued without consultation with the appropriate channels of faculty governance.

Therefore, be It Resolved that the State University College at Oneonta College Senate urge the College to withdraw from its participation in VSA; and

Be It Further Resolved that the State University College at Oneonta College Senate urge the College administration to begin meaningful consultation with the faculty through presentations on what is contained in the VSA, the implications of the VSA for the educational programs of the College, and the implications of the collection and public distribution of standardized measures assessing student learning outcomes; and

Be It Further Resolved that prior to any further consideration of the College's participation in or implementation of the VSA, representatives of faculty, chosen through the existing faculty governance structure, be consulted and included in all such considerations and on any committee or taskforce charged with any future involvement and implementation of the VSA.